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1928

# DAHLIAS



**ALICE MEUSSDORFFER**  
**DAHLIA GARDENS**

487 Hanover Street

San Francisco

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California



The cover design is one of my prize winning baskets of Dahlias, which caused a sensation at the Nineteen Twenty-Seven Dahlia Show of the Dahlia Society of California. :: ::

It stood four and one-half feet high ; and the flowers are the glorious John Meussdorffer, named for my father, a California Pioneer, who planned the beautiful grounds and the garden in which I raise my dahlias. He was a great lover of flowers and raised many dahlias. The John Meussdorffer Dahlia is also named for my brother who was a dahlia enthusiast, and spent many hours among his beloved flowers. :: :: :: :: :: ::

See the description among the Peony Dahlias in this catalog on Page 5. :: ::



John Meussdorffer - My new 1928 Introduction-has been rated 2nd of the Outstanding New 1928 Introductions on the Pacific Coast by the Great Authority On Dahlias,- Alex Waldie.

# ALICE MEUSSDORFFER DAHLIA GARDENS

SAN FRANCISCO - - - - CALIFORNIA

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## *The Dahlia*

*The Official Flower of San Francisco*



### DECORATIVE DAHLIAS

Double Flowers Usually Full to the Center, Flat Rather than Ball Shaped,  
with Broad Flat, More or Less Loosely Arranged  
Petals, with Tips, Broad or Rounded

- \***Al Koran**      A glorious, big, bright yellow, deepening to amber.  
The petals are wavy, making it very attractive. \$1.50.
- \***Amun Ra**      A stunning flower of copper and orange, with a reflex  
of scarlet. Perfect upright stem. \$1.00.
- \***Black Jack**      A large flower of deepest velvety maroon, almost  
black. \$2.00.
- \***California  
Superba**      Delicate shade of pink, without any blue tone and  
shades gradually to a white center. Exquisite. \$2.00.
- \***Champagne**      Warm autumn shades, varying from burnished copper  
to dull golden champagne and chamois. \$1.50.
- \***Dawn**      Cream, shading to yellow, suffused with shell pink,  
having a good stiff stem. \$1.50.
- \***Dr. Tevis**      An immense bloom. A blending of old rose and old  
gold, on good stems. 75c.
- \***Elinor  
Vanderveer**      An incomparable dahlia of exquisite beauty and great  
size. The large blossoms of glowing satiny rose pink  
are of great depth and are held far above a tall sturdy  
bush on exceptionally long stiff stems. It won First  
Prize as the Best Dahlia in the 1927 Show of the Dahlia  
Society of California in my exhibit. \$2.50.
- \***Evelyn  
Adamson**      The color of this immense and exquisitely charming  
dahlia is hard to describe. A rosy fawn pink, suffused  
with gold, growing more beautiful as the blossoms  
mature. 75c.
- \***Halvella**      A most charming rose pink of large size, on stiff stems.  
Invaluable for exhibition and cut flowers. \$1.00.
- Insulinda**      Beautiful golden orange. A very large flower with  
broad, wavy petals and strong, erect stems. \$1.00.

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

# DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—Continued

- \*ISOLDE** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A rich canary or creamy yellow. Immense flower of beautiful formation, great depth and exceptionally strong stem and wonderful keeping quality as a cut flower. \$5.00.
- \*Jane Selby** Beautiful flower of lovely mauve pink. 75c.
- \*Kitty Dunlap** American beauty rose. One of the finest dahlias in commerce. Has long, firm stems and excellent keeping qualities. \$1.00.
- \*Mrs. Carl Salbach** The immense blooms of mauve pink are held erect on extra long, stiff stems. A perfect exhibition and cut flower. 50c.
- \*Mrs. Eleanor Martin** One of the best decoratives. A giant flower on a good, stiff stem. Mulberry color. The petals are a peculiar rose tint, with a reverse of violet. \$3.00.
- Millionaire** Mammoth lavender, shading to white. Unusual depth and very strong, stiff stems. 50c.
- \*Minnie Burgle** Very bright crimson. Good cut flower. 25c.
- \*Princess Pat** Glorious shade of old rose, deepening at the center and having long, stiff stems. 75c.
- Proxie** A beautiful flower of deep, rich red, held above a tall growing bush on a fine stem. \$1.00.
- \*Rosa Nell** A most beautiful and satisfactory dahlia. A clear, bright rose. The flowers are large and well formed. Stem is excellent and it blooms freely. 75c.
- \*Santa Rosa** A beautiful decorative. Color, old rose. Extra good keeper and excellent for florist work. Flowers held erect on good stems. 75c.
- \*Seabright** Rich, amber yellow. Fine stems. 35c.
- \*Shudow's Lavender** An exquisitely beautiful flower of silvery lavender, slightly shading to white, having a long, stiff stem, and held high above a lace-like foliage on a tall growing plant. \$2.00.
- \*St. Bernard** Immense dahlia of a soft creamy white, suffused with clear pink. A lovely flower. \$1.00.

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

### DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—Continued

- \***TEMELPA**      A NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A wonderful decorative. A wine red, almost mahogany, shading lighter, and also having flowers shading to white. It has an exceptionally strong stem, the flower growing on top of it like a rose and it is a wonderful keeper as a cut flower or on the bush. \$10.00.
- \***Theodore Vail**      Large old gold, shading to apricot. 50c.
- \***TRISTAN**      A NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. An immense, rich, dark, velvety red. Beautiful formation. Stands perfectly erect on a remarkably strong, stiff stem. Is a very strong growing bush. \$10.00.

### CACTUS DAHLIAS

English and American Types have flowers resembling chrysanthemums. The hybrid type is fully double; the petals are shorter than the English and American types and are broad, flat and recurved and twisted.    ::    ::

- Ambassador**      Hybrid. This is the largest and by far the best cactus dahlia ever introduced. The flowers are of the true cactus type, and are borne on long, stiff stems, well above the foliage. The flowers often measure eight inches and over in diameter. The color is a soft buff, shading to salmon pink. \$2.50.
- \***Ballet Girl**      English Cactus. Very attractive. Orange splashed and tipped with white. Some flowers will be all orange; others all white, circled with orange. \$1.50.
- \***Elsie Oliver**      Hybrid. A creamy pink, shading to cream in the center. Large blooms and good stems. \$1.50.
- \***Geo. Walters**      Hybrid. Very large flower of dark salmon color with a buff base. One of the best. Very good stems. 50c.
- Helen Durnbaugh**      Hybrid. An extremely beautiful and dainty cactus of exquisite pink, shading to white. The stems are long and stiff. 50c.
- Islam Patrol**      Brilliant red, tipped pure gold, on long, stiff stems. Very attractive for exhibition. \$3.00.
- Kalif**      Hybrid. A truly majestic flower. Its brilliant, pure scarlet color, strong, stout stems and large perfect formation make it one of our most useful hybrid cactus dahlias. 75c.

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

### CACTUS DAHLIAS—Continued

- La Favorita** Hybrid. A beautiful oriental orange of fine form, with long, stiff stems. 75c.
- \***Mariposa** Hybrid. The beautiful pink coloring is intensified by a violet suffusion which deepens at the center. It has strong stems and large blooms. \$1.00.
- \***Mrs. W. E. Estes** Hybrid. Has a large, pure white bloom on a strong stem. 75c.
- Mrs. C. Cooper** English. Immense flower with slightly incurved florets of great length. Clear cream color with outer petals suffused salmon. 75c.
- \***Mrs. Edna Spencer** American. An exquisite shade of orchid pink. Very beautiful. Good formation and stem. 50c.
- Pierrot** English. Lovely yellow, white edge. 50c.
- Ruth Gleadell** Hybrid. Soft yellow, shading to pink. Called California Sunburst Dahlia. 50c.
- Yellow King** Hybrid. Beautiful, creamy canary yellow. 50c.

### PEONY DAHLIAS

Semi-Double Flowers, Showing a Bright Yellow Center and Usually Have an Inner Row of Petals That Are Curved and Twisted

- \***Alma Davies** Salmon pink, shading to deep old rose and apricot. It is an excellent cut flower variety, having wonderful keeping qualities and extra long, stout stems. \$1.50.
- \***ARIADNE** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. Beautiful Peony of pure old gold. Has a perfect formation and a most attractive bloom on a good stem. \$5.00.
- \***BRUNHILDE** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A striking Peony, very large, rose cerise color, shading lighter; light stripe and light reverse. The stem is cane-like in its strength, and it is a prolific bloomer. \$5.00.
- Candy Kid** A beautiful shade of clear pink, shading to white at the base of the petals, with a good stem. 75c.
- Dahlia Marked \* Originated in California



**PEONY DAHLIAS—Continued**

- City of Portland** Deep, clear, rich yellow. Blooms are of immense size and held well above the foliage on good stems. 75c.
- Copper** A golden bronze, shading to copper, having a good stem. 75c.
- Cream King** An immense flower on very long stiff stems. A deep cream. Fine for exhibition and cutting. 75c.
- Elsa** A pure white peony with a good stem. 50c.
- Geisha** A most popular peony. Gold and red. 50c.
- \*GLORIOUS** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A perfect peony type, brilliant red tipped and striped a golden yellow. Large and very striking. \$5.00.
- \*Gorgeous** It is well named. Yellow, shading to bright scarlet. Extra long, strong stems, immense size and has exceptionally good keeping qualities as a cut flower. \$1.00.
- \*JOHN MEUSS-DORFFER** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. The sensation of the 1927 Dahlia Show of The Dahlia Society of California. A stunning, startling, large peony. Glorious, vivid, brilliant scarlet. It glows as though from a light within it, especially at night. The formation is perfect, having at least three rows of petals, giving it depth, and the center is surrounded by tiny petaloids. Has an exceptionally strong stem, holding the immense flower perfectly erect. It attracts instant attention wherever seen, whether in the garden or on the exhibition table. The bush is medium growing, and is always full of blooms. \$10.00.
- \*MAY DEARBORN SCHWAB** NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A beautiful peony dahlia of a deep bluish lilac color. The blooms are immense, having wonderfully strong stems of great length. The bush is a strong grower and blooms continuously. \$5.00.
- Mexico** An attractive red and yellow peony. Large flowers held on good stems. \$1.00.
- Meyerbeer** Always popular. Color, dark cardinal with a purplish center and lighter tinting at the tips. A vigorous plant and free blooming. 75c.

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

### PEONY DAHLIAS—Continued

- \*Mrs. Jessie Seal**      A large flower of magnificent old rose with golden shadings. The stem is strong and long and holds the blooms well above the foliage. \$1.00.
- \*Oriole**      A very striking peony in a most remarkable combination of burnt orange, red and yellow. 75c.
- Pearl Ruggles**      An exquisitely colored peony of carmine rose, suffused with clear pink, shading lighter at the tips and to white at the base of the petals. It has long fine stems. 75c.
- SNOW WHITE**      NEW INTRODUCTION FOR 1928. A very large, pure white, beautiful peony dahlia, having a long, very strong stem, holding the perfect blooms well above the strong growing bush. A splendid cut flower. \$5.00.
- Uncle Sam**      This eastern dahlia is a huge one, the color being an orange buff, shading to pink, and has a glistening effect in the sunshine. The beautiful blooms stand erect on long, strong stems. \$1.00.

### SHOW DAHLIAS

Old-Fashioned Flowers, Ball-Shaped with Tightly Quilled Petals

- Coronado**      Hybrid Show. A very beautiful large, fuschia colored dahlia. \$1.50.
- Les Amours de Madame**      Large flower of lovely pink, with a cerise stripe. 50c.
- Sierra**      White flower tipped with delicate lilac. 50c.

### COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

- Abbe Hugonard**      A giant in its class. The coloring is a striking purple, with a distinct white edge to the petals. Collar is white. 50c.
- Geant de Lyons**      A large flower of velvety maroon, with a long white collar. 50c.
- Herald**      Large rosy pink, with white collar, very beautiful and indispensable for cutting and exhibitions. 50c.
- \*Mrs. Joyson Hicks**      English Single. Rich bronzy tan, with a crimson ring. Beautiful. 50c.

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

### POMPON DAHLIAS

Pompons are the gems of the dahlia family, producing very small compact flowers like diminutive show dahlias. They are invaluable for cut flowers owing to their good keeping qualities. :: :: :: :: :: :: ::

- Amber Queen**—Deep Amber. 35c.  
**Annie Doncaster**—Yellow Base, Lavender Shadings. 35c.  
**Blush Gem**—White Ground, Edged Rosy Pink. 50c.  
**Coral Queen**—Coral Red. 50c.  
**Daisy**—Salmon Rose. Very Popular. 50c.  
**Darkest of All**—Maroon, Almost Black. 50c.  
**Darkeye**—White, with Lavender Center. 35c.  
**Deedee**—A Perfectly Formed, Lavender. Dainty and Small. 50c.  
\***Elizabeth**—Golden Yellow. Edged with Brownish Red. 35c.  
**Eunice**—White with Lavender Edge. 50c.  
**Girlie**—Pinkish Mauve Color. Very Beautiful. 50c.  
**Glow**—Pure Old Rose. Perfect Form. Very Popular. 50c.  
**Hecla**—Pure White. 35c.  
**Ideal**—Pure Yellow. 35c.  
**Johnny**—Very Dark Red. One of the Smallest and Most Perfect. 35c.  
**Lilias**—Beautiful. Cream Ground. Heavily Edged Pink. 50c.  
**Little Beeswing**—Golden Yellow. Tipped Cherry. Fine Form. 50c.  
\***Little David**. One of the Best. Burnt Orange. Prolific Bloomer. 50c.  
\***LYDIA**—New 1928 Introduction. Delicate. Pinkish Orchid. 75c.  
**Mars**—Bright Red. 35c.  
**Nellie Fraser**—Light Ground. Edged Rose. 50c.  
**Marietta**—Deep, Rosy Crimson. 50c.  
**Regulus or Little Dorritt**—Beautiful. Cerise, Purple. Small. 50c.  
**Rosea**—Shaded Lilac. 50c.  
**Sunny Daybreak**. Apricot. Edged Red. 50c.  
**Sunset**—Clear Orange. 25c.  
**Tommy Keith**—Crimson, Tipped White. 50c.  
\***Yellow Gem**—Creamy Yellow. Small and Fine Form. 50c.

We Won the First Prize for the Best Basket of Pompons at the  
1927 Dahlia Show of the Dahlia Society of California

Dahlias Marked \* Originated in California

### DIRECTIONS

Full directions for planting and growing dahlias enclosed with each order.

Order early to prevent disappointment.

Terms—Remittance with order or in advance of shipment. All retail orders delivered postpaid, at your planting time, unless otherwise requested.

Substitution—WE do not substitute unless requested to do so.

Prices Quoted are for field-grown divided tubers.

We guarantee all tubers to be true to name, and in strong growing condition when shipped.



### DAHLIA SEED

Package of 50 Seed.....\$2.00

Package of 100 Seed..... 3.00



### DAHLIA COLLECTIONS

I am offering this season Special Collections made up of one tuber each of my most popular varieties. This gives an opportunity of securing a choice collection at a greatly reduced cost. These collections are carefully balanced as to color, and are made up of large dahlias only. There are twelve guaranteed tubers in each collection, all labeled, and of varieties that can be found in this catalog. WE prepay all postage. These collections are.....\$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00 and \$25.00



## PRIZES WON

*at the*

### TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA, 1927



First Prize.....Best Dahlia in the Show  
First Prize.....Best Basket of Pompon Dahlias  
Second Prize.....Best General Display  
Second Prize.....Best Basket of Decorative Dahlias  
Second Prize.....Best Basket of California Dahlias  
Second Prize.....Best Collection of Peony Dahlias  
Second Prize.....Best Basket of Pompon Dahlias  
Second Prize.....Best Collection of Pompon Dahlias



# THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

We extend a cordial invitation  
to all who are interested in  
dahlias, to join the Dahlia  
Society of California. The  
Dahlia Bulletins that are issued  
several times a year are full of  
interesting dahlia news.  
Yearly dues \$2.00.

